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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Items 30, 35, 46, 55, 60,
61, 82 and 131 of the
provisional agenda*
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION
OF AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT
ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE
ZONE IN THE REGION OF THE MIDDLE EAST
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REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW
COMMISSION ON THE WORK OF ITS
FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 14 September 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am transmitting to you herewith the text of a statement issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its forty-fourth session, which was held at Jeddah on 8 and 9 September 1992 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Salim Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait.

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 30, 35, 46, 55, 60, 61, 82 and 131 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its forty-fourth session, held at Jeddah on 8 and 9 September 1992

The Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) held its forty-fourth session on 8 and 9 September 1992 at Jeddah under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Salim Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait. The following were in attendance:

His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayd Al-Nahyan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates;

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Mr. Yusuf Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Oman;

His Excellency Sheik Hamad Bin Jasim Bin Jaber Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar.

The Ministerial Council considered recent developments in the region and at the international level. It noted with grave concern the failure of the Iraqi regime to comply with the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait, its violation of the terms of the cease-fire under Security Council resolution 687 (1990) by continuing to hold in detention Kuwaiti citizens and third-country nationals, its boycott of the work of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission and subsequent rejection of the Commission's recommendations as embodied in the relevant Security Council resolution, its failure to implement the Security Council resolutions relating to the payment of compensation by virtue of its legal liability for damages arising out of its aggression, its dilatoriness in returning all Kuwaiti property, and its procrastination in eliminating all weapons of mass destruction.

Affirming its support for Kuwait as an embodiment of the principle of collective security, the Council condemns the renewed practice of issuing hostile statements, the mounting threats being made by the Iraqi regime against Kuwait and the GCC States and the danger that that regime poses to the security and stability of the region. The Council expresses satisfaction at the adoption by the Security Council of its resolution 773 (1992) in which it underlines its guarantee of the inviolability of the international boundary between Kuwait and Iraq. The Ministerial Council is of the view that that resolution contributes to the achievement of security and stability in the

region. It once again affirms that Iraq must implement all of the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression without procrastination, dissimulation or selectivity and that it must immediately release Kuwaiti and third-country prisoners and detainees in accordance with international law and the Security Council resolution on the cease-fire in order to bring an end to this human tragedy.

The Ministerial Council reaffirms its strong desire for the preservation of the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq, and it holds the Iraqi regime fully responsible for the sufferings endured by the Iraqi people as a result of the lawless policies of that regime and its refusal to implement Security Council resolutions 706 (1991) and 712 (1991), which address the question of meeting nutritional and medical needs. The Council affirms that the declaration of an exclusion zone for Iraqi aircraft south of the 32nd parallel accords with the resolutions and statements of the Security Council and falls within the framework of the international community's concern to halt the campaigns of annihilation being carried out by the Iraqi regime against the Iraqi people.

The Council is attending with great concern to the measures taken by Iran on the island of Abu Musa and to events unfolding there. It expresses its strong condemnation of the measures taken by Iran on the island, representing as they do a violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a GCC State and a breach of security and stability in the region. The Council calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to honour the Memorandum of Understanding concluded by the Emirate of Sharjah and Iran at the relevant time, while stressing the fact that the island of Abu Musa has been the responsibility of the Government of the United Arab Emirates since the establishment of the federation, and it expresses its outright rejection of the continued occupation by the Islamic Republic of Iran of the Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates.

The Council expresses deep regret that Iran has taken such unwarranted measures, and it views such conduct as vitiating the declared desire for expanded relations between the two sides and as incompatible with the principles underlying relations between the GCC States and Iran and the agreement of the two sides to maintain relations based on adherence to the principles of international law, on respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, on non-interference in the internal affairs of States, on the rejection of resort to force or to the threatened use of force and on the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The Council, expressing the hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran will review its position on this issue, affirms its full support for the United Arab Emirates in upholding its full sovereignty over the island of Abu Musa and declares its unconditional backing for all measures that may be taken by the United Arab Emirates to assert its sovereignty over the island.

The Council is following the progress of the peace efforts aimed at bringing an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict and reaching a just and durable

solution to the Palestine issue on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and of the principle of land for peace. It welcomes the resumption by the parties concerned of the bilateral talks in Washington, it renews the affirmation of its commitment to support the peace efforts being made, and it commends the endeavours of the co-sponsors of the Peace Conference. The Council expresses its aspiration that a peaceful, just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the question of Palestine should be achieved in such a manner as to secure Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, guarantee the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination, and build firm foundations for the consolidation of security and stability in the Middle East region.

The Council expresses its deep concern and bitter grief at the continued suffering of the Somali people as a result of a bloody civil war that has brought the slaughter or death by hunger of many innocent people, particularly women and children, and has displaced many thousands. It conveys its sympathy to the Somali people, and it calls upon all patriotic Somali forces to halt the bloodshed, overcome their differences and promote the national interest. The Council reaffirms that the GCC States stand by Somalia in its grievous plight, and it expresses the hope for a restoration of security and stability to that fraternal country. It urges the Security Council to reinforce the United Nations forces in Somalia in order to achieve security and stability and preserve the unity and territorial integrity of the country.

The Ministerial Council notes with deep concern and great sorrow the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a result of continued aggression by the so-called Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, its violation of international law and of the fourth Geneva Convention, its encroachments on the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the perpetration by its forces of the most heinous crimes of ethnic cleansing, terrorism and forced expulsion. The Council condemns in the strongest terms the aggression of the so-called Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and it calls upon the Security Council to take all necessary measures, including the use of force under Article 42 of Chapter VII of the Charter, in order to restore international peace and security, compel the aggressor forces to comply with the relevant United Nations resolutions, forestall any alteration in demographic composition or the achievement of any territorial gains, withhold reward from the aggressors, compel regular and irregular Serbian forces to withdraw from the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina - the forces that bear responsibility for the crimes against humanity that have been committed - and ensure the prosecution of those responsible for the crimes in question.

The Council affirms its full solidarity with and support for the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, its Government and its people, in its grievous plight and its heroic defence of its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. The Council commends the decisions reached by the London Conference and the efforts being made by the United Nations, and it calls upon international organizations to contribute to the mitigation of suffering and

to endeavour to achieve the objectives identified by the London Conference on the basis of the principles agreed upon by all parties. It calls upon the international community to adopt a united and resolute stance on the implementation of the decisions of the London Conference, to provide material and military support to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina to assist it in repelling aggression, so as to ensure it the right to legitimate self-defence in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and to sever economic relations with the so-called Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in implementation of Security Council resolution 757 (1992).

The Ministerial Council affirms its determination to expedite measures for the promotion of joint action in accordance with established goals and to advance cooperation towards new horizons that will meet the aspirations of the leaders of the GCC States and respond to the expectations of their peoples in such a manner as to achieve greater linkage and integration among member States in the context of the smooth functioning of the Gulf Cooperation Council.